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AUGUST  
1939

Native Tree Planting  
*By Arthur M. Shoven*

Water at the Foundation  
*By Edward H. Culver*

Notes from the Muirlands  
*By Katherine V. Lewis*

California Electric Co.  
Plants Trees  
*By V. R. Knight*

Fuchsia Notes  
*By Bertha M. Thomas*



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# CALIFORNIA GARDEN

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Mrs. Robert Morrison

Miss K. O. Sessions

Mr. Arthur Shoven

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## Mrs. Greer Plants a Tree . . .

By ARTHUR M. SHOVEN

President Mary A. Greer of the San Diego Floral Association, a person of lovable character, creative mind, vision and an inspiration to all members of this group as well as to the many nature lovers of the city, has been honored. On June 24, 1939, a live oak was planted in her name, dedicating a large area of Balboa Park to native planting. A large, colored, natural stone with a suitably inscribed bronze marker embedded, was placed at its base. The inscription reads:

MARY A. GREER  
NATIVE PLANTING

## FLORAL ASSOCIATION

1939

Mr. R. R. McLean in his opening remarks, expressed himself in well chosen words, saying that "California has some fine native trees, notably the Sequoia, Monterey Cypress, Incense Cedar, Torrey Pine and various species of oak including the live oak of California. In the Southern counties at least, much emphasis has been placed on exotic trees for streets and specimen planting, to the neglect of our really fine natives."

For many years the Floral Association, by its direct influence and through its individual members, has been the principal factor in the beautification of the streets and gardens of the city. It is entirely fitting, then, that this association should take a leading part in urging the planting of more natives.

Mrs. Mary A. Greer has been a moving spirit in these floral developments. We are here to dedicate a native tree and shrub planting area in her honor and bearing her name. The tree chosen to commemorate the planting is, aptly enough, the California live oak, *Quercus agrifolia*, the most characteristic and sturdy of all coastal trees. Oaks stand as a symbol of strength, of character and endurance. These characteristics are well personified in Mrs. Greer and it is with much pleasure that we dedicate this oak and native planting to her. It is our hope that she may live to see this sapling grow into a sturdy tree and enjoy this planting for many years."

Director W. Allen Perry, on behalf of Balboa Park, accepted the oak tree by saying that an interest as expressed by Mrs. Greer and the Floral Association in the starting and continued success of the area was worthy of this unusual recognition; that this planting would be a living monument to Mrs. Greer and her good work. In closing, he said he was delighted to have a part in the planting of this oak tree and reminded those present that the association had sponsored the K. O. Sessions Cactus and Succulent Garden in the park which was an outstanding planting project.

Mrs. Greer responded by saying, "Friendship is one great gift of God to mankind," and thanked friends in attendance and all others

who made this day possible, a cornerstone in community service. She continued by stating, "This beginning offers opportunities for leadership in developing the native planting idea which would be enjoyed by thousands of nature lovers for generations yet to come." Her closing sentence was, "Not many things in life are more interesting than planting a tree."

The inspiration for this ceremony originated with two ladies, Mrs. Arthur M. Shoven and Mrs. Robert Morrison who have often worked with Mrs. Greer in the association and who have learned to love her for outstanding qualities of character. The local history of the native planting dates back for several years when Miss Sessions, Mrs. Wells, Mrs. Greer, Mr. Gander and others had visions of such a sanctuary in Balboa Park, a place where scientists and interested visitors might study the native flora conveniently.

Through the cooperation of Mr. Morley the present site was granted the association, after a committee of investigation consisting of Morley, Sessions, Jerabek and Greer had tramped the park in search of just the right place. Advantages of location are good soil; a start already of natives in fair condition; water piped nearby; accessibility at the joining of Arizona Street and Pershing Drive; variety of contour,

(Continued on Page 2)

"Pinky" Knight also plants trees an interesting way as told on page 6.

# More "Friends" from the Muirlands

By KATHERINE V. LEWIS

How we all enjoy the long days of California sunshine, but still an occasional soft gray morning gives one a feeling of restful relaxation. We all know too, that color is the life of the garden, and yet a clump of silvery gray foliage serves to give the eye a pleasing pause. This silvery gray foliage is often just what is needed as a background for brilliant colors, to serve as a contrast with strong greens, and is useful in pleasing effects with rose, strong blue or purple. We have found some very desirable silvery gray plants that are well worth discussing.

Have you grown the "Silver-Tree?" Perhaps you know it as *Leucadendron argenteum*. This striking tree, a native of Table Mountain, Cape Town, is one of the handsomest of silvery trees, and although it is unusual when fully grown, about 30 feet, is particularly beautiful in the juvenile stage. The leaves which have the appearance of glistening white metal are covered with fine silky white hairs. Outside of its native land it is grown only in Southern California.

The tree must be well established before being transplanted into sandy peaty soil, and above all the drainage must be perfect and the moisture uniform. It does not dislike the wind and is most interesting when placed so that the silvery leaves will shimmer in the breezes. Mr. Roland S. Hoyt in his book, "Ornamental Plants for Subtropical Regions," says that the "Silver-Tree" is "a rare and beautiful plant to excite not only the admiration but the imagination of all true gardeners."

Another interesting silvery plant is one from Australia, the "Silver-cord", *Calocephalus (Leucophyta) brownii*. This plant which is said to be the only species in cultivation, is a low spreading little shrub of dense growth and erect white terminal flowers. Its silvery lustre is most unusual in plant growth and it is very lovely when combined with

vivid colors. It is seldom found in nurseries possibly because of its rapid development and its comparatively short life. We find that it roots rather easily from cuttings which may be secured "from a friend." Take cuttings in the spring and when rooted transfer to pots, and when established plant in sandy loam and peat. It will not tolerate quantities of water in heavy soil. We find that young plants respond quickly to a small amount of stimulation. The branches are attractive for cutting and can be used at Christmas time for decorations in the home or upon Christmas packages.

One more gray favorite I must mention, "Mussinsmunt" or *Nepeta mussini*, a plant that is a real standby in many parts of the country. When our landscape architect wished to use this in our garden we at first said "No, not that, we don't like *Nepeta*," but we spoke before we had seen it growing in California. Quantities of long racemes of violet blue flowers rising from clumps of down covered gray green leaves made a beautiful display of color for us in April which lasted for weeks.

The plant is easily increased by divisions in early spring, is very drought-resisting and requires only a little fertilizing just before blooming and a severe shearing after blooming. If you have a dry bank which is a problem, plant *Nepeta mussini* but be advised—if you walk into the garden some morning and find the plants flat, it may be because cats love to envelop themselves in its aromatic fragrance.

Among the other interesting silvery plants for special uses are: *Gnaphalium lanatum*, white and wooly, is one plant that will grow under eucalyptus trees. When telling a friend the name she answered "what is the common name?" When I said "Cudflower" she replied, "That? Well! I prefer the first." We have found that the lovely silver *Anthyllis barba-jovis*, "Jupiter's

Beard" has other than ornamental uses. The Beard of Jupiter has served well as a home for the tiny bush-tits. They build their artistic gourd shaped nest on a slender twig and flit in and out for weeks. The The "Pigeon's-beak," *Lotus berthelotii*, a gray, trailing, fernlike plant with scarlet flowers may be used as a lovely ground cover or as a graceful drapery for a wall.

Katherine V. Lewis,  
La Jolla

## From the North

It is with pride and pleasure that I note that our Floral Association celebrates the thirtieth anniversary of the publication of the California Garden this July. It is a feat of which you may be proud.

Many other floral publications have been born and died in the interim and the Association may very pardonably "swell up" and look backward at the wonderful work and accomplishments of both the Floral Association and the "California Garden."

All that is necessary to do is to look at the varieties of the plants and flowers of today and compare them with the quality of those of thirty years ago to realize the beneficent results.

Wishing you continued success,  
L. A. Blochman,  
2801 Sacramento Street,  
San Francisco, California

## Mrs. Greer Plants a Tree

(Continued from Page 1)

mesa, bottom and hillside and a certain amount of seclusion from the general public.

Mr. Morley and Mr. Perry have shown great interest in this project and both are giving help and all cooperation.

—Arthur M. Shoven.

PATRONIZE  
CALIFORNIA GARDEN  
ADVERTISERS

## Guy Fleming Speaks

I wish to pay tribute to the San Diego Floral Association and the California Garden for bringing together and holding together such a splendid group of garden enthusiasts for so many years. My congratulations! and I sincerely hope that the Association and the Garden will flourish and carry on for many times thirty years.

I came to San Diego in January 1909, the year in which the California Garden Magazine was first published by the youthful San Diego Floral Association as a medium for acquainting the San Diego public with its wonderful opportunity to develop a city of unique gardens and parks.

As I recall, my first knowledge of the existence of an active garden organization was when I was attracted by a flower show held in the lobby of the newly completed U. S. Grant hotel. This, I believe, was in the Spring of 1910. At that time I did not know the difference between a geranium and a chrysanthemum, but the floral display was a bewildering array of many flowering plants unknown to me. Many of the plants were labeled with strange, unpronounceable names and the exhibits were presided over by superior beings who rattled off these terrible names without a stutter. Chief among these super-men and super-women were Alfred D. Robinson and Miss Kate Sessions.

A few years later, urged by friendly members of the Floral Association, I timidly applied for membership in the organization and to my great delight was accepted.

It is with gratitude and pleasure that I now review the past issues of the California Garden and as I read the names of those who have contributed articles for our knowledge and enjoyment, many of whom have gone to that Garden Country beyond, I am impressed with how well the inspiration and the vision of many of these contributors has borne fruit.

Guy L. Fleming.

## Water at the Foundation . . .

By EDWARD H. CULVER

The telephone rings violently, you grab the receiver expecting a fire call, and a worried feminine voice announces that the plaster on her brand new house is cracking, that she knows she has been cheated, and will some one come out and tell her "why."

H'm! Nice sounding voice, so we had better take a "look see."

We find the house to be the usual little frame stucco cottage, nice looking, well landscaped and seemingly well built. At the window corners and along the top of the foundation wall there are unmistakably some cracks, small but noticeable to the critical eye of an owner.

Our attention is then drawn to the plants and shrubbery planted close to the foundation wall, so close together as to form a veritable hedge around the entire house.

As they are in thriving condition I remarked that they must receive excellent care and plenty of water and am informed that they are sprinkled every morning and the ground soaked.

"I just adore flowers and gardening," the little lady says. "I had the planting made just like that of a picture I saw in a magazine we take."

"An eastern magazine, an eastern picture and an eastern house." "That explains a lot," I observe.

"Why, what possible difference does that make?" she wanted to know.

I then explained that landscape plantings in Southern California required constant irrigation to make any showing, where most anywhere else the rains were sufficient; that our hot summer sun evaporated the ground moisture much quicker than elsewhere and that our soil lacks any of the humus which retains moisture.

Also the footings of our foundations rarely extend deeper than the eight inches below the ground prescribed by law, while those of an eastern dwelling are usually seven or eight feet below ground. The in-

cessant wetting of the soil keeps the shallow footing in a wet, soggy surrounding while the deeper footings remain dry. Moisture from irrigation rarely extends deeper than a foot or two.

The sprinkling of the shrubbery and consequent wetting of the stucco every morning, followed by the action of the hot sun a few hours later, does not help matters to say the least.

To try to imitate some eastern landscaping scheme is not to the best interests of any dwelling in the Southland. The planting of shrubs and plants too close to the foundation and keeping the ground saturated should be discouraged as a foundation settlement of a sixteenth of an inch, means cracks, as does the alternate wetting and drying of the exterior stucco with its resulting expansion and contraction.

If shrubs and plants are to be set close to the house, the footings should go down below any possible water line caused by irrigation, for if the foundation is placed when the ground is dry and hard, it is inevitable that it will settle if the soil is kept soaked below the depth of the footing.

Our building laws are lenient to an extreme in requiring that a foundation extend only 8 inches below and 6 inches above ground, and many a dwelling built to these minimum requirements, has been ruined by the owner filling in above the concrete line, for a flower bed and then keeping it soaked. This always results in fungus growth in the wood frame and its consequent damage.

A little care in planting and watering will make a lot of difference in the life and maintenance of a dwelling.

—Edward H. Culver in  
Municipal Employee.

ENTER AN EXHIBIT IN  
THE FALL FLOWER SHOW  
AUGUST 26th and 27th

# Annual Fall Flower Show to be Held August 26-27 in Balboa Park

## SCHEDULE OF CLASSES

### SECTION A—AMATEURS

#### Dahlias

- \* 1. Collection 12 Dahlias, 12 varieties, one bloom each (small varieties excluded). Prize competitive cup to be won for three years.
- 2. Three Blooms Cactus, one or more varieties.
- 3. Three Blooms Semi-Cactus, one or more varieties.
- 4. Three Blooms, Formal Decorative, one or more varieties.
- 5. Three Blooms, Informal Decorative, one or more varieties.
- 6. Three Blooms Miniature, one or more varieties, not over 3½ inches in diameter.
- 7. Three Blooms Fancy or Variegated, one or more varieties.
- 8. Three Blooms, Pompons, one or more varieties.
- 9. Three Blooms Show or Ball, one or more varieties.
- 10. Three Blooms, Single, one or more varieties.
- 11. One Bloom Cactus.
- 12. One Bloom Semi-Cactus.
- 13. One Bloom Formal Decorative.
- 14. One Bloom, Informal Decorative.
- 15. One Bloom Miniature, not over 3½ inches in diameter.
- 16. One Bloom Fancy or Variegated.
- 17. One Bloom Pompon.
- 18. One Bloom Show or Ball.
- 19. One Bloom, Single.
- \* 20. Collection of Cactus and Semi-Cactus, one bloom each variety.
- 21. Collection Formal and Informal Decorative, one bloom each variety.

22. Collection Pompons, three blooms each variety.

23. Collection Collarettes, three blooms each variety.

\* 24. Most Artistic Basket of Dahlias, other foliage permitted.

\* 25. Most Artistic Arrangement Vase or Bowl of Dahlias, other foliage permitted.

\* 26. Novice Class, open to amateurs who have never won a Dahlia award. Entry, five large Dahlias of any type or types.

\* DAHLIA SWEEPSTAKES  
San Diego Floral Association Silver Medal.

### SECTION B Open to All Competitors

#### Dahlias

27. Display of Miniature Dahlias not over 3½ inches in diameter.

28. Established Three - year - old Seedling.

29. Display of Undisseminated Seedlings. (Undisseminated applies to a variety not as yet offered for sale nor introduced into Commerce).

30. 1938 Seedling.

31. Most Artistic Basket of Pompons, use of other foliage permitted.

\* One Best Bloom Exhibited, stem and foliage considered.

### SECTION C—PROFESSIONALS Dahlias

\* 32. General Display Arranged for Effect, potted plants and foliage allowed for embellishment.

- 33. Six Blooms, any variety.
- 34. Six Blooms, Cactus, one or more varieties.
- 35. Six Blooms, Semi-Cactus, one or more varieties.

36. Six Blooms Formal Decorative, one or more varieties.

37. Six Blooms, Informal Decorative, one or more varieties.

38. Collection Pompons, three blooms each variety.

\* 39. Best Largest Collection Standard varieties. Names attached.

### SECTION D—AMATEURS

#### Zinnias

- \* 40. Collection of Zinnias.
  - 41. Three Blooms, Zinnias, Red or Red Shades.
  - 42. Three Blooms Zinnias, White or White Shades.
  - 43. Three Blooms Zinnias, Pink or Pink Shades.
  - 44. Three Blooms Zinnias, Orange or Orange Shades.
  - 45. Three Blooms Zinnias, Yellow or Yellow Shades.
  - 46. Three Blooms Zinnias, Lavender or Lavender Shades.
  - 47. Three Blooms, any color not classified.
  - 48. Three Blooms, picotee type.
  - 49. Twenty-five Blooms Zinnias, small Mexican.
  - 50. Collection Lilliput Zinnias.
  - 51. Display Novelty Type. Example Fantasy and Quilled.
  - 52. Arranged Vase or Bowl of Zinnias.
  - 53. Arranged Basket of Zinnias.
- \* ZINNIA SWEEPSTAKES,  
San Diego Floral Association  
Bronze Medal.

### SECTION E—AMATEURS

#### Flower Arrangements

- 54. Arranged Vase, Bowl or Dish of Flowers.
- 55. An Arrangement of Flowers in Shades of Yellow.
- 56. An Arrangement of Flowers in Shades of Pink.

- 57. An Arrangement of Flowers in Shades of Lavender and/or Blue.
- 58. An Arrangement of White Flowers in White Container.
- 59. An Arrangement of Flowers in Copper, Brass or Bronze Container.
- 60. An Arrangement of Flowers in Silver or Pewter Container.
- 61. Arrangement of Green in White Container.
- 62. An Arrangement of Flowers or Foliage after the Oriental Manner.
- 63. An Arrangement of Foliage, Berries or Pods.
- 64. Composition of Fruit and/or Vegetables, Foliage and Flowers Allowed.
- 65. Arrangement of Flowers and/or Foliage with Stones.
- 66. Arrangements in Bottles.
- 67. Arrangements of Flowers in Glass Container. Arrangement of stems considered.
- 68. French Bouquets.

\* **S W E E P S T A K E S FOR CLASSES 54 to 68 INCLUSIVE.**

**First and Second Prizes.**

**Judging Points**

Distinction	20%
Relation of Flowers to Container	20%
Color Harmony	20%
Proportion	20%
Quality	20%

- \* 69. Banquet Table.
- \* 70. Dinner Table. Thanksgiving or Christmas arrangement.
- \* 71. Tea Table.

**SECTION F—AMATEURS**

- 72. Display of Asters, Double Type.
- 73. Display of Asters, Single Type.
- 74. Display of Marigolds.
- 75. Display of Petunias.
- 76. Display of Roses.
- 77. Display of Pelargoniums.

78. Display of Hemerocallis.  
 79. Display of Any Flower Not Otherwise Classified.  
 \*
- S W E E P S T A K E S FOR CLASSES 72 to 79 INCLUSIVE.**

**SECTION G—OPEN TO ALL**

**Lath House Subjects**

- 80. Exhibit of Potted Fibrous tall growing Begonias.
- 81. Exhibit of Potted Fibrous low growing Begonias.
- 82. One Specimen Potted Fibrous Begonia.
- 83. Collection of Potted Tuberous Begonias.
- 84. One Specimen Potted Tuberous Begonia.
- 85. Collection Rex Begonias grown in pots or boxes.
- 86. Collection of Ferns.
- 87. Decorative House Plant.
- 88. Collection of Coleus.
- 89. Specimen Rex Begonia, San Diego Seedling, grown in pots or boxes.
- \* 90. General Exhibit of Begonias grown in pots or boxes.
- 91. Specimen Maidenhair Fern.
- 92. Specimen Fern other than Maidenhair.
- 93. Fern Hanging Basket.
- 94. Hanging Begonia Basket.
- 95. Hanging Basket, not otherwise classified.

\* **S W E E P S T A K E S FOR CLASSES 80 to 95 INCLUSIVE.**

**SECTION H—OPEN TO ALL,**

**Miscellaneous**

- 96. Flowering Vine (flowers and foliage).
- 97. Collection of Cut Sprays Flowering Trees or Shrubs.
- 98. Displayed collection of Semi-Tropical Fruits.
- 99. Display Collection of Gourds.
- 100. Potted Plant in Flower for Patio or Garden.

- 101. Exhibit of Summer Flowering Lilies.
- 102. Display of Gladiolas.
- 103. Display of Fuchsias.
- 104. Display of Geraniums.
- 105. Single Specimen Cactus.
- 106. Collection of Six Cacti.
- 107. Collection of Twelve Cacti.
- 108. Single Specimen Succulent.
- 109. Collection of Six Succulents.
- 110. Collection of Twelve Succulents.

\* **S W E E P S T A K E S FOR CLASSES 96 TO 110 INCLUSIVE.**

- \* 111. Still Life Pictures. First and Second Prizes.
- 112. Display from Civic, State or National Institution.

**SECTION I—PROFESSIONAL**

- 113. Collection of Decorative Plants and Flowers arranged for effect in 100 square feet.
- 114. Collection of Petunias.
- 115. Collection of Zinnias.
- 116. Collection of Asters.
- 117. Arranged Basket of Flowers.
- 118. Banquet Tables.
- 119. Exhibit of Water Lilies.
- \* 120. Best Display of Cut Flowers.
- 121. Best Exhibit of Garden Pottery (limit 20 pieces). Open to all.

\* **O U T S T A N D I N G DISPLAY IN SHOW.** San Diego Floral Association Silver Medal.

**FLOWER SHOW CHAIRMEN**

- Dahlia—Mrs. George Gardner, Bayview 3778.
- Zinnias—Mrs. E. H. Culver, Main 3291; Mrs. M. Molitor, Jackson 2181.
- Arrangements in Baskets, Bowls and Dishes—Pieter Smoor, Main 4875; Mrs. John Nuttall, Jackson 2644; Mrs. W. Goldsmith, Jackson 8094.
- Still Life Pictures—Miss Lila Titus, Randolph 7520.
- Annuals, Perennials, Cacti and Succulents—Mrs. E. M. Duacour Jackson 8056; Mrs. Grace Trevey, Hillcrest 2011-J.
- Dining Tables—Mrs. W. S. Cowling, Jackson 0255.
- Lath House Subject—Mr. and Mrs. H. F. Tucker, Jackson 5863.
- Secretary—Mrs. M. E. Ward. Phone H-3132-J.
- Treasurer—Mr. Frederick G. Jackson.
- General Chairman—Mrs. M. A. Greer, Phone H-1550-J.

# California Electric Co. Plants Trees

By V. R. KNIGHT

It is interesting to note the comments made by Mr. Richard S. Requa, local architect, in the San Diego morning Union, commented upon in your June issue of California Garden. He strikes very definitely at the foundation of the whole thing, as it has appeared to us. Attached is a copy of our communication to the San Diego County Board of Supervisors, of April 4th, 1935, which no doubt, will explain the beginning of a Tree Planting Project of ours.

In answer to this communication, the County Clerk's office advised us to take the matter up with the State Highway Department. This was done, and after presenting a formal request to Mr. Wallace, Dist. Engineer for the Division of Highways, accompanied by photographs, plot plans, and a list of the plantings as recommended by Miss Kate Sessions, local horticulturist, and Mr. L. L. Brown, Tree Surgeon, for the State, whereupon, we received under date of December 18, 1935 our permit to proceed with the plantings. This work consisted of six sites of from eight to twelve trees each, along Highway 80, between Lakeside Junction at the west extreme and Viejas Grade at the East extreme. This work was completed in a series of three years, planting two sites each year.

It is interesting to note, that in the permit granted by the State, we were not permitted in any way to identify the firm name of California Electric Works, or any other name in connection with this project, however, this was of very little consequence because we had the pleasure to ourselves to the extent that we felt it was a duty and a privilege, having been in business for sixteen years to make this contribution to our Highway and back country because we knew that we had already received the support from the locality, that we were entitled to, and it was now our turn to express our appreciation in a manner of this kind.

We made these annual plantings

a joint shop project, in which the employees would plant and care for the trees and the company would pay for the expense of trees, peat moss, fertilizer, and transportation. It was gratifying to note, the great good that was accomplished—we would take our families with us, with their lunches, and being in the spring of the year it certainly made us back-country conscious. We feel, also, that the youngsters who went along, were and would remain, more appreciative of trees. We must not neglect to state that we gave these trees regular care for the first year, which consisted of mulching well, and regular watering every two weeks during the summer months.

The men would alternate, those who missed out on the planting and one new man would go along each time with another employee who had been on a previous watering trip. Consequently, we had wonderful success and lost very few trees, through lack of care. The State was wonderfully cooperative and assisted to the utmost, once they were convinced that we meant business and would see the project through.

Having completed this project last year, we endeavored to start out on a new one which has not been completed as yet. That is as follows:

Under date of February 6th, this year, we requested permission for the planting of thirteen localities on Highway 101 along Rose Canyon. This request was referred back to us by the District Engineers office of the Division of Highways, stating as follows:

"With reference to your proposed planting program in Rose Canyon, we are in accord with your proposal to beautify the roadsides, but, in this instance, it is a matter which should be discussed with the Director of Public Works and the Park which will clear the roadway berm and will not interfere with the ice plant which we have placed on the slopes through this area, should be generally acceptable, but the exact location, details of the

planting and future maintenance, are matters which are more directly the concern of the City of San Diego than the Division of Highways."

Realizing that this involves considerable "red-tape" and having just passed through a "hectic" year we thought we would apply ourselves for a few months to our own business and take up tree planting again in the fall,—so that is where we are today, and we would appreciate greatly, any assistance that your organization could lend, in order to shorten the "red-tape" and again get us started on a new project. We feel as Mr. Requa does, that this is an undertaking that could be carried on by many civic minded organizations, corporations, or individuals, either individually or banded together as a unit, and we can say from our past experience, it is highly gratifying and one's chest fills out with pride, to see the trees that have been in for three or four years, and realize that we are, in a small way, responsible for their existence.

You might be interested in knowing the varieties or species of trees and shrubbery used at the various sites. They are as follows: Native Sycamore, Mountain Laurel, Black Walnut, Cork Oak, California Holly, Arizona Cypress, E. sideroxylon rosea, St. John's Bread, Palo verde, Pink Locust and several others.

Thanking you kindly, for the privilege of telling this story to you, we are,

Very truly yours,  
California Electric Works,  
Ltd.  
V. R. Knight.

April 4, 1935  
San Diego County Board of  
Supervisors  
San Diego County Court House  
San Diego, California  
Gentlemen:

Representing a business organization of 15 years standing in your County with a payroll today, of over 30 employees, we the undersigned owners and operators of the California Electric Works, Inc., have felt in displaying and bringing our business to the attention of our

(Continued on Page 8)

## Tipu Tree New

Our native oak, *Quercus agrifolia*, when old and large, is the ideal outdoor living room tree for Southern California. The small-leaved evergreen elm from China grows very rapidly, with its long drooping branches, has become more popular.

In recent years the Tipu Tree from Brazil has come to San Diego. Now only ten years old, it will be a popular rival to the native oak. It grows best where frosts are scarce. It is related to the common locust, but is evergreen except in April and May when it is deciduous. After May it makes a very rapid growth of new foliage and brilliant yellow blossoms for July and August. In Pacific Beach, by the roadside at the K. O. Sessions Nursery, is a fine specimen worth observing. There are two plants by the bird cages in Balboa Park, near Juniper and Sixth Avenues, but they are planted so closely together that they do not show their beauty and size.

Large growing trees are more satisfactory as single specimens. *Tipuana speciosa* may become the show tree for Pacific Beach, as the soil is good and the climate is mild, both of which are favorable to its growth. It grows rapidly from seed and an abundance will be available this fall.—K. O. Sessions.

## Election of Officers

At a meeting of the directors of the San Diego Floral Association held on July 10, the following officers were unanimously elected for the year 1939 to 1940: President, Mrs. Mary A. Greer; vice-president, Mr. R. R. McLean; treasurer, Mr. Frederick Jackson; directors at large, Miss K. O. Sessions, Miss Alice Halliday, Mrs. Robert Morrison and Mr. Arthur Shoven.

**FALL FLOWER SHOW**  
August 26th and 27th  
**GET READY!!**

## Fuchsia Notes . . .

By BERTHA M. THOMAS

The first fuchsia was found in Chile in the 16th Century by a German doctor and botanist, Leonard Fuchs. One hundred years later they were very popular in gardens all over Europe. According to Bailey, there was then some 540 known varieties. Gradually, however, there was a waning in interest, some kinds being lost altogether, some being found again only in very late years. England and France now have many new and distinct varieties which are being brought to this country. Here in the United States we have many hybridizers who are bringing out new varieties every year, hundreds of them, and there are now 1500 of these yet unnamed. Mr. O. E. Essig has published a check list of fuchsias which listed 2000 varieties eight years ago. The many dealers of the country list from one to five hundred varieties each.

Specimens vary from eighteen inches to twenty and thirty feet in height, if given the right conditions. Blooms are from an eighth to four or five inches in diameter, of every color and hue, some really indescribable. If there is any question of this last statement, just go into any large fuchsia garden and check actualities.

These plants have other and very real uses in some countries, along with the beauty they have to offer. In Brazil, one variety is used in the cattle country for fences. This same form is used in both England and Ireland as a hedge. One species has been found which is known to have grown four to seven feet in diameter and as much as eighty feet high, with uses in lumbering. To shorten this long story, we of the Fuchsia Society feel we have a worthy work, combining nature's beauty (it's own excuse for being) with a commercial chance for man to earn his livelihood. Probably you remember the Chinese adage "If you have two pennies, spend one for a flower, the other for bread."

In 1927 a San Diego woman be-

gan to collect fuchsias. She heard of a Mr. Harry Green of Monterey, California who had a large collection of these plants. Writing him, she found an enthusiastic collector of these old-fashioned "Eardrops" and that his one absorbing ambition, other than this, was to live to see a national society formed to bring back to favor and a wider use, this gorgeously beautiful flower.

The American Fuchsia Society was soon a living thing, mainly because of the interest and work of this man. Officers and members have been largely of San Francisco and the bay regions due to an ideal climate for their growing. There are now several hundred members with a considerable number from foreign countries. Mrs. W. H. Ware of San Francisco is now president, while Miss Alice Eastwood, also of San Francisco and the Hall of Science, is secretary and treasurer. The directors are and have been mostly of the northern regions, but Catalina has been given one and Southern California had three. There is a regular publication of bulletins for the members by Mr. G. Niederholzer which is of great value to growers. Several members are writers of note such as Sidney Mitchell, O. E. Essig, Miss Alice Eastwood and others.

Bertha M. Thomas.

Mrs. Greer announces the following committees to serve for the year 1939-40: House committee, Miss Alice Halliday, Mrs. Robert Morrison, Mrs. Arthur Shoven, Mrs. John Nuttall, Mrs. George Champlin, Mrs. N. Molitor, Mrs. Frederick Jackson, Miss Etta Schwieder, Miss Helen Converse, Mrs. Mary Greer; program committee: Miss K. O. Sessions, Mrs. John Bakkers, Mr. Arthur Shoven and Mrs. Mary Greer.

**ENTER AN EXHIBIT IN  
THE FALL FLOWER SHOW**  
**AUGUST 26th and 27th**

# Problems of the Soil . . .

By R. R. McLEAN, County Agricultural Commissioner

## ROSE RUST

**Question:** Rusty spots appear on the undersides of the leaves of several rose bushes. These leaves turn yellow and drop. Please let me know what to do about this trouble.—Mrs. M. R.

**Answer:** Some varieties of roses are more subject to orange rust than are others. Control is rather difficult, beginning in the winter with pruning. All prunings and fallen leaves should be collected and burned or buried and the plants given a thorough spraying with strong lime-sulphur. During the spring and summer the bushes can be dusted with dry sulphur occasionally or sprayed with liver of sulphur (potassium sulphide) if rust appears. These materials, with the possible exception of liver of sulphur, will more or less discolor the foliage and should be avoided if possible. Heavy applications of barnyard manure during the fall or winter and proper irrigation as necessary will produce a good growth of deep-green, thrifty foliage in the spring and summer that is much less subject to rust than the leaves would be if these operations were omitted. A spindling, weak growth is less able to resist rust than a healthy vigorous plant. If you find one or more plants that seem to be particularly susceptible to rust, it probably would pay to remove them and substitute others that are more resistant.

## LAWN TRIMMINGS

**Question:** I have been told that lawn trimmings must be removed from the lawn after cutting, else the grass will be injured. It seems to me that it does not do any harm to let it lie, but I would like your opinion, please.—Mrs. K.W.

**Answer:** Some gardeners make a practice of religiously removing all lawn trimmings, while others remove practically none. In the writer's opinion, however, a middle course is best. If the lawn is quite

short and no appreciable amount of grass is visible on the surface after cutting when a carrier is not used, let it all lie there and work its way down around the roots where it will form a much needed mulch. If the grass is so long when cut that it lies in windrows or swaths, then the surplus should be gathered up. In place of a carrier the writer prefers to rake off the surplus grass after cutting and allow the balance to work its way down around the roots. Bamboo rakes are ideal for clearing the lawn after cutting.

**Question:** I would like some information about black spots on avocado branches. The upper sides of the smaller and some of the larger branches are covered with what seems to be a black fungus. Does it do any harm and can it be killed by sprays?—W.L.

**Answer:** These smudgy or sooty spots are caused by a definite fungus, but it is not believed it causes appreciable injury. This fungus is widely distributed on avocados in California, both along the coast and inland, but as above stated it apparently does no harm to tree or fruit. Bordeaux sprays should control it and a spray of 2 parts of cold water paint and 1 part of sulphur is also said to be effective in destroying the fungus.

## California Electric Co.

(Continued from Page 6)

clientele, it should be done in a more constructive manner than bill boards, posters, or unsightly displays throughout the county, and after considerable deliberation and consultation on the matter with such an authority as Miss K. O. Sessions, we request the privilege of planting groups or nests of trees along the Highways of San Diego County at spots acceptable to members of your board where trees of different species would be to an advantage

due to climatic and moisture conditions.

This program to be simple in the beginning but stretching over a period of years might grow into a worthwhile project.

Our first suggested spot is centered about the overflow to the spring at the watering station on the new Viejas Grande. Miss Sessions suggested at this point a group of five Lombardi Poplars planted approximately twenty feet apart. Our only consideration in this matter would be the privilege to mark the spot with a small bronze plate approximately four inches by twelve inches, mounted upon a short pipe standard with this inscription:

"This spot beautified by employees of the California Electric Works."

Thanking you very much, for your consideration of this matter, we are,

Very truly yours,  
California Electric Works, Ltd.

**THE GARDENERS LIBRARY,**  
Edited for the Massachusetts Horticultural Society by Edward I. Farington.

Here are two more little books of The Gardeners Library an aggregation of works on gardening subjects that seem to reach further into the problems of the Southwest than most of the material coming out of the prolific Northeast.

Hale, Cushman and Flint, 1939.  
\$1.00 each.

## BEGONIAS AND HOW TO GROW THEM

By Bessie Truxton

This book will do much to systematize the complicated situation in the matter of species and varieties for begonia fans. For anyone growing these interesting and colorful plants, there is a great deal that is new here and up to date in soils and fertilizers, in propagation for the amateur and, most important, pests and diseases. The many illustrations will be a distinct help in identification. The general run of material will be found as applicable to outdoor culture in California as it is indoors and may be recommended without stint.

## THE VEGETABLE GARDEN

By Edward I. Farrington

This covers the subject thoroughly and briefly and will be particularly useful to those of the gardening fraternity who can afford to grow their own vegetables in a semi-arid locality, what with irrigation and other exceptional costs competing with market grown crops. The amateur will find a wealth of detail available in making space, labor and time count in terms of fresh, potent vitamins. Again the calendar of the years work recognizes the South in a way that is gratifying and serviceable.—R.S.H.

## PLANT GROWTH SUBSTANCES, How to promote Plant Growth and hasten the rooting of Cuttings by Hugh Nicol. Chemical Publishing Co., Inc., New York.

After reading this book I have a feeling that Science is beginning to get to the bottom of this mysterious thing called humus. We have been looking forward to the time when they tell us what it is and not only what it does. While this work omits any definite statement, the material indicates to me some relation between these growth substances, so-called, and that something in decaying vegetation which is so beneficial to growing plants. Certain preparations under trade names have been coming onto the market recently which actually and appreciably stimulate growth over that which may be expected from ordinary fertilizers.

This book may explain these remarkable reactions to nurserymen and horticulturists who have used them experimentally. It may be too technical to fairly call to the attention of the great majority of the readers of this magazine, yet I find a great deal here to think about and know that there are others who will experience the same exhilaration.—R. S. H.

S. D. Floral Association meeting held third Tuesday of each month at Floral Bldg., Balboa Park, 7:30 p. m.

## July Meeting

At the meeting of the San Diego Floral Association this month Mr. Arthur Shoven presided in the absence of the president, Mrs. Mary A. Greer. He called attention to the date of the Annual Fall Flower Show to be held August 26th and 27th, and urged all members to actively share in making it the outstanding of all Fall Shows, previously given.

Mentioning the 30th. Anniversary Number, July 1939 issue of California Garden magazine, Mr. Shoven paid tribute to Mr. Roland S. Hoyt, editor, and Mrs. Hoyt, Mrs. DeForrest Ward, secretary, who sold the advertising and Alice Greer who so perseveringly searched through back editions and obtained informative reports of the thirty years work of the club. He said the idea originated with Mr. Thos. M. McMullen, previous editor, who through illness was obliged to resign.

Mr. Frederick G. Jackson who recently returned from a trip to New Orleans gave an interesting talk on Flowers and Gardens of New Orleans and surrounding country. Rainfall of New Orleans compared with San Diego's is much greater, being 47 inches, and the soil is plain river silt, contains alkali and requires acidifying, a reaction that is obtained by using live oak leaf mold. Magnolia trees are beautiful, while Camellias, Azaleas, and species of ferns are some of the outstanding flora. Calla lilies were seen growing and blooming in fountains. Amaryllis lilies were blooming in April.

New members in attendance for the first time were called upon by Mr. Shoven to tell of their plant-life hobbies, and other members told of floral attractions about the city and county which were worthy of a visit. An informal hour followed which included a visit of the club to the park garden where there were hundreds of night-blooming cereus to be seen.—G.M.G.

## THE FALL FLOWER SHOW

AUGUST 26th and 27th

**House Foundations** crack under water, as brought out by Ned Culver on page 3. These shrubs can be used there and do not require excessive moisture.

Adenocarpus viscosus	
African-broom	
Callistemon lanceolatus	
Bottlebrush	
Cassia artemisioides	
Wormwood-senna	
Cytisus canariensis	
Broom	
Diosma ericoides	
Breath of Heaven	
Crevillea thelemanniana	
Jewelflower	
Erica melanthera	
African-heath	
Lavandula vera	
English Lavender	
Sollya heterophylla	
Australian Bluebell	
Teucrium fruticans	
Germander	

R. S. H.

## CACTUS WOOD USED IN VIOLINS

(From Los Angeles Times)  
TUCSON (Ariz.) — "There's nothing like wood whittled from the ribs of giant sahuaro cacti to give a violin resonance and purity of tone.

"This was only his theory until proved by Oscar T. Jones, World War veteran who came from Arkansas two years ago to be near the United States Veterans' Hospital here.

"Out of ribs chosen from sahuaros that were hundreds of years old before they tumbled to the ground and all but their skeletal framework disintegrated under the desert sun, Jones fashioned a violin that brought pleas to 'name your own price' after it was played by his son at a Christmas celebration.

"But he refused all offers, asserting that the 'cactus fiddle' was not quite finished. Besides, he intends to make all instruments for a complete orchestra, including strings and woodwinds, out of sahuaro wood.

"Jones believes that the peculiar porous structure of sahuaro ribs is what gives his violin its remarkable resonance."

# LYON

Motor Insect  
Lantern



Designed for night-flying insects.  
INCREASES COMFORT by catching annoying gnats and bugs. Ideal for porches, lawn parties, gardens, etc.

INCREASES GARDEN PROFIT soon pays for itself because it gets those destructive insects which cause worm infestation of crops, gardens, etc. Used for coddling moths, corn borers, leaf rollers, etc.

Write for circular or drop in at factory—2075 Moore Street, Dept. CG

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San Diego

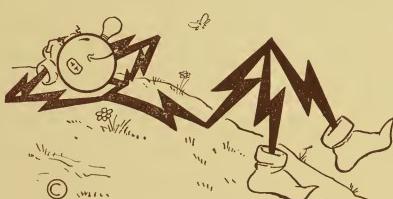
# RAINFORD FLOWER SHOP

You are cordially invited to call and see our shop at

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San Diego

Telephone number  
remains the same  
Franklin 7101

This is a picture—



of how I garden

My Daytime laziness  
I hope you'll pardon  
But during the night  
I'm very bright  
and work in the cool  
of GARDEN LIGHT.

For questions or help  
I'm at your call.  
Just drop me a line  
'No charge at all!

Yours,  
REDDY KILOWATT

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